

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
22 February 2001 (22.02.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 01/13210 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification?: **G06F 3/023**

Sacrez [FR/US]: 323 West Haydn Drive. Apt. 1231.  
Carmel, IN 29631 (US).

(21) International Application Number: **PCT/US00/22655**

(22) International Filing Date: 18 August 2000 (18.08.2000)

(74) Agents: **TRIPOLI, Joseph, S. et al.**; Thomson multimedia  
Licencing Inc., P.O. Box 5312, Princeton, NJ 08540 (US).

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
60/149,552 18 August 1999 (18.08.1999) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **THOM-  
SON LICENSING S.A.** [FR/FR]; 46, quai Alphonse Le  
Gallo, F-92648 Boulogne Cedex (FR).

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,  
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ,  
DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR,  
HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR,  
LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO,  
NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR,  
TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

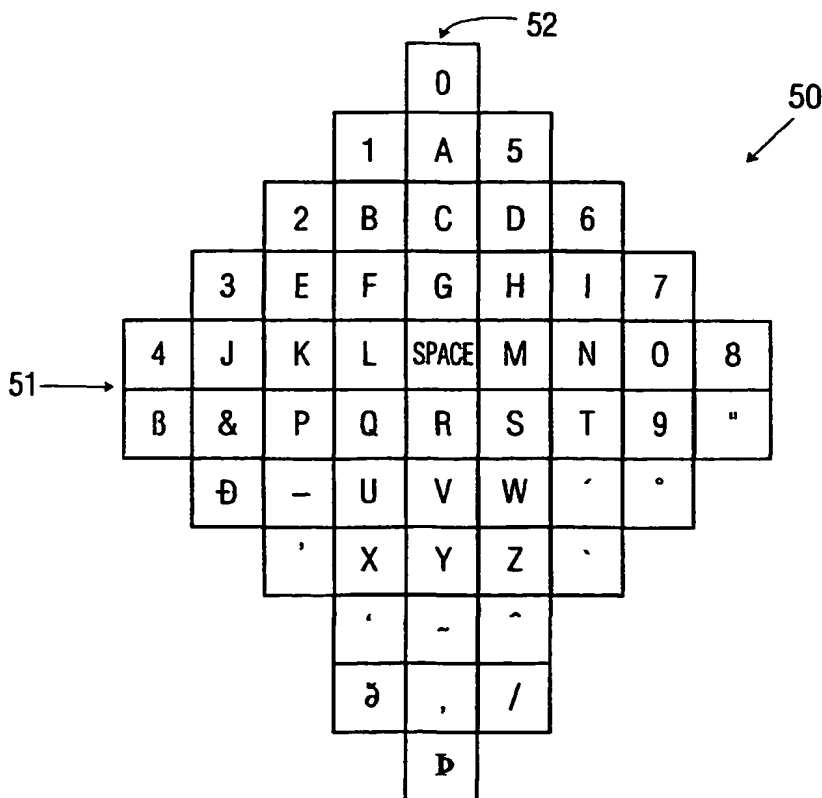
(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **LIEBHOLD, Valerie,**

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,  
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian  
patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European  
patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **KEYBOARD LAYOUT AND METHOD FOR DATA ENTRY**



(57) Abstract: A keyboard layout and a method of data entry utilizing the keyboard layout is provided. In one form, the present invention is a data entry device having a plurality of user selectable keys wherein the keys are arranged about a central point or key such that each key is at a minimum distance from the central point or key relative to each other key. Each key represents a character and/or symbol. In the case of an alphabet, the keys representing the characters of the alphabet may be arranged alphabetically. In another form, the present invention provides a system and method for data entry wherein the distance between input keys or choices of an input device are minimized by providing a central reference point wherein a selection medium returns to the reference point after each input/key selection.



IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

**Published:**

— *With international search report.*

01/13210 A1